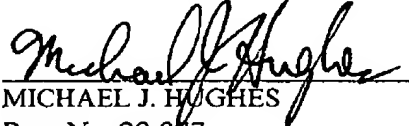


REMARKS

Having responded to all of the paragraphs of the Office Action, and having amended the claims accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended, are now in condition for allowance. Only claims 14 and 15 remain in the application and such have been declared to be allowable subject matter in Paragraph 7 of the Office Action. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be forthcoming at the Examiner's earliest opportunity. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments with regard to this Amendment, a telephonic conference at the number set forth below is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

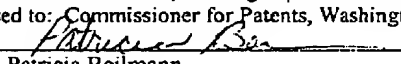

MICHAEL J. HUGHES
Reg. No. 29,077

Dated: February 4, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on February 4, 2003 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231.
Date: February 4, 2003


Patricia Beilmann

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